NEWS

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SYSTEM 460 NOW SHIPPING

We are proud to start the new year with the intro-
duction of the most powerful computer ever produced by
Cromemco: The Cromemco System 460.

The CS-460 uses a special version of our XXU card as
the central processor. This special XXU, called the XXU-25,
includes a 68881 co-processor operating at a lightning
fast 25MHz clock rate. With the XXU-25, the CS-460 benchmarks
at over 1.3 million Whetstones per second. This is a 30%
increase in speed over the CS-420.

In addition to its high-speed operation, the CS-460
offers more storage capacity and convenience than ever
before. Key to this performance is a 120 megabyte cartridge
tape drive that is built into the CS-460. The tape drive
uses convenient quarter-inch tape cartridges (type DC-600A)
and records on these cartridges using the industry standard
QIC-120 format. The tape drive can read cartridges recorded
in either the QIC-24 or the QIC-120 format. This means that
tapes written on a Cromemco CTD-60 drive can be read by the
CS-460. (Tapes written by the CS-460, however, cannot be
read by the CTD-60.)

The CS-460 is designed to boot into UNIX directly from
the hard disk, in normal operation. The CS-460 can also boot
directly from the cartridge tape. There is no floppy disk
drive (and no 64FDX controller) in standard configurations of
the CS-460. The cartridge tape is the primary medium for
information backup and information interchange.

The CS-460 is available with either single or dual 175
megabyte hard disk drives and makes use of our new ESDC
controller card. The ESDC also supplies the SCSI interface
for the unit's QIC-120 tape drive.

The CS-460 is now our highest-performance system
providing 30% more number-crunching capability than the
CS-420 and twice the tape storage capacity. The CS-460 is
attractively priced at $31,995 for a system with 175 megabyte
hard disk, 4 megabytes of RAM, and 8 serial ports. This base

system can be expanded with up to 16 megabytes of RAM, 64
serial ports, and 350 megabyte (dual 175 megabyte) disk
capacity.

The CS-460 is now being shipped, and new orders will be
filled within 30 days of their receipt.

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SINGH RAJPAL NAMED VICE PRESIDENT

We are pleased to announce that Singh Rajpal has been
appointed Vice President of Manufacturing. In this position
he reports to Charles Bush, Cromemco's Chief Operating
Officer.

Singh Rajpal is a graduate of the Indian Institute of
Technology. He joined Cromemco in 1979, as a manufacturing
engineer and progressively served as manufacturing
engineering manager, director of quality assurance, and most
recently, as director of manufacturing.

In announcing the appointment, Dr. Roger Melen,
President of Cromemco, commented "For nearly a decade at
Cromemco Singh has demonstrated an unswerving commitment to
product quality and manufacturing excellence. We look
forward to his continued leadership as Vice President of
Manufacturing."

Singh Rajpal
Vice President Manufacturing

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CUSTOMER SUPPORT TECH REPORT

UNIX V.0

Under UNIX V.0 when using the ECC tape device (ftpi), and attempting to backup system using FTAR, a number of customers have received the message "Improper tape format". This has occurred when the tape was not verified during tape initialization. The VTOC table must be created by the tape verification for the newer ECC tape format to be recognized.

UNIX V.2

When using the C Compiler (under UNIX V.2 Release 2.01), be sure to set the floating point (FP) variable to null in order to correctly use software floating point libraries. User must then use compile line options to set compiler for floating point use. Later releases of UNIX V.2 automatically default to floating point compilation.

With Release 2.01 of UNIX V.2, the "ATOF" routine gives an error. This has been corrected in later releases.

The RMAIL program transfers mail from one system to another using UUCP links under UNIX V.2. RMAIL should be linked to MAILX, as MAILX supports the use of "aliases" for external communications.

The latest release of UNIX V.2 (2.08) includes modifications to the ESDI driver software and the ESDC firmware (3.11). The format of archive size information changed. Therefore, if 3.11 firmware is used with an earlier release of UNIX V.2, the SCSI tape archive size may default to be 2K bytes in size (rather than 60,000K bytes). To override the 2K byte limit, use the "-k" option of ftar.

CE EDITOR

CE Version 1.69 (and above) supports 8 bit characters and no longer strips the 8th bit. If "MARK" is set on a 3102 terminal, then the 8th bit is taken as the parity bit, and therefore may lock while using CE.

O/S SOFTWARE NOW ON TAPE

When upgrading to the ESDC controller board, operating system software will be shipped on SCSI (QIC-24) tape. If you need software on floppy disks, you must make a special request at time of order.

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SOFTWARE NOTES

The new release of UNIX (version 2.08) can use a terminal connected to the Octart as the system console. The following notes may be helpful when using this latest release.

The new UNIX 2.08 will be shipped on a SCSI (QIC-24) tape that contains both the UNIX file system and the standalone utilities. Note that the XDOS release must be 2.04 or higher in order to use the standalone utilities from the tape.

All systems currently being shipped contain the new XDOS. However, customers who have SCSI tape drives and older versions of XDOS must upgrade their XXU with the new XDOS ROM, or must over-load the older version of XDOS with the standalone version of XDOS 2.04 from floppy disk. SUDS packages will be created with this in mind.

It should be noted that Cromix-Plus is no longer being shipped with all systems.

The CS-220 and CS-250 hard disks do include Cromix-Plus partitions and Cromix-Plus floppy disks.

The CS-115 and CS-460 do NOT contain a Cromix-Plus partition, nor do they include Cromix-Plus floppy disks.

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CROMEMCO HIRES GOVERNMENT MARKETING DIRECTOR

We welcome Clark Hunt as our new Government Marketing Director. Clark brings to the position over 20 years of experience in defense systems with Ford Aerospace & Communication Corporation and Rolm Mil-Spec Computers, Loral Corporation.

After 12 years of active duty in the US Army Military Intelligence, Clark now serves in the Army Reserves as Executive Officer, Strategic Intelligence Detachment at the Presidio, San Francisco.

In his position at Cromemco, Clark explores new business development and technical marketing management in the Government sector.

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NAVY SPECIFIES CROMEMCO SYSTEMS

An announcement was made recently that the Navy has specified Cromemco 420 systems. They will be installed at 17 U.S. Navy sites throughout the world to supply SUBSHIPS UNIX-based, high-performance systems equipped with software for administration of construction, conversion, maintenance and repair of Naval ships.